

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LIBREV 01340 291827Z

43

ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01

EB-04 SAM-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 /053 W

----- 027358

R 291630Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5850

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1340

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GB, TP, PO

SUBJ: PRESIDENT BONGO'S COMMENTS ON SAO TOME AND CABINDA

1. DURING HOUR-LONG PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT BONGO IN HIS OFFICE OCTOBER 29, PRESIDENT SPOKE TO ME AGAIN AT SOME LENGTH ABOUT HIS TRIP TO CHINA AND INDIA AND I HAD OCCASION TO ASK HIM HOW HE SAW THE FUTURE OF SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE ISLANDS AS WELL AS CABINDA. THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT SAO TOME AND PRICIPE WOULD IN THE NORMAL COURSE OF EVENTS BECOME INDEPENDENT UNDER MLSTP GOVERNMENT. WHEN I MENTIONED THAT I HAD HEARD SOME RUMORS THAT THERE WERE SOME MARXISTS AMONG THE MLSTP, HE DISMISSED THIS AS BEING QUITE INCONSEQUENTIAL. HE SAID THAT IT WAS OBVIOUSLY NECESSARY IN SITUATIONS OF THIS KIND TO HAVE CERTAIN LEADERS IN EXILE VOICE RADICAL SENTIMENTS, BUT THAT THE GOG KNEW ALL THE LEADERS OF THE MOVEMENT AND BONGO MENTIONED IN PARTICULAR DA GRACA AS BEING SOMEONE WHO WAS VERY SOLID AND RELIABLE.

2. WHEN I ASKED HIM WHAT HE THOUGHT WOULD HAPPEN IN CABINDA, HE PAUSED FOR A MOMENT AND SAID THAT, OF COURSE, NOT HAVING ANY COMMON BORDER WITH CABINDA HE WAS NOT DIRECTLY CONCERNED. OBVIOUSLY, BOTH ZAIRE AND THE CONGO WANT TO IF NOT ANNEX AT LEAST EXERT CONTROL OVER CABINDA  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LIBREV 01340 291827Z

BUT HE SUSPECTED THAT NEITHER WOULD LET THE OTHER ONE

SUCCEED. BONGO OPINED THAT CABINDA WOULD PROBABLY END UP AS AN INDEPENDENT COUNTRY INASMUCH AS THE POPULATION OF CABINDA WAS TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF ANGOLA AND WOULD NOT WISH TO JOIN UP WITH THE LATTER COUNTRY. BONGO ASKED ME WHAT THE U.S. POSITION WAS IN THIS MATTER AND I MERELY REPLIED THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AS A BASIC PRINCIPLE WAS ALWAYS IN FAVOR OF SELF-DETERMINATION AND WE FELT THAT IT WAS A MATTER FOR VARIOUS PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES TO SETTLE AMONG THEMSELVES.

3. COMMENT: PRESIDENT BONGO GAVE NO INDICATION WHATEVER OF HAVING DISCUSSED ANY PLANS FOR CABINDA WITH THE FRENCH ALTHOUGH HE WOULD NOT BE LIKELY TO MENTION IT TO ME IN ANY CASE. IT IS CLEAR, HOWEVER, HE ENVISAGES AN INDEPENDENT SAO TOME AND PRINCIPLECOUNTRY OVER WHICH GABON WOULD EXERT A DOMINANT INFLUENCE.  
MCKESSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CABINDA, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 OCT 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974LIBREV01340  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740308-0919  
**From:** LIBREVILLE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19741010/aaaaaijh.tel  
**Line Count:** 78  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** boyleja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01 MAY 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <01 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <12 MAR 2003 by boyleja>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESIDENT BONGO'S COMMENTS ON SAO TOME AND CABINDA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, GB, TP, PO, (BONGO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005